

## **CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON**

### **Art Commission MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** June 22, 2010

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

#### **Arts Commission Members Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virginia Wright
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFore	<input type="checkbox"/> Robbie Howell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Thoma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input type="checkbox"/> Ted Ottinger
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin	

#### **Staff Present:**

Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor  
Debbie Zemke; Recreation Manager

#### **Guests:**

Sam Read, Assistant Director of Theater Puget Sound  
Sybil Davis, Burien Arts Board member

#### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order. April minutes approve as written. May minutes approved as corrected.

#### **Arts Crush**

Sam Read of Theater Puget Sound shared information with the commission about the Arts Crush event to be held in October 2010. Theater Puget Sound has produced a live theater week for the past five years. This event is a way to grow new audiences, create more community engagement, provide accessibility to underserve and youth audiences and create special events that fit unique niches. A 2009 survey found that 82 percent of people who participated had never set foot in the theaters they attended. Arts Crush encourages theaters and performing arts spaces to host free nights, family events and other unique community events.

For 2010 TPS decided to reach out to a wider arts community: dance, collaboration, literary arts, etc... each week having different arts focus. Three hundred arts organizations will be participating. For more information go to [www.artscrush.org](http://www.artscrush.org). The deadline to sign up is the end of July. Boeing, Amazon, and 4Culture are funding the project. TPS is hoping that Arts Crush will become a yearly festival.

#### **AREAS OF FOCUS REPORT**

##### **VISUAL ARTS**

Arts Education— Victoria and Donna have continued their work on the 153<sup>rd</sup> banner project. At this time they are looking for a volunteer with photo experience to help document the project. Gina will send Donna Michael Brunk's contact information. The commissioners are looking into if the art should be scanned and if past arts commissioner and designer Maureen Hoffman would be interested in helping with the project. The plan is to make eighteen 2'x5' banners. The cost estimate for the project is \$6,000. Donna and Victoria have spoken to businesses on 153<sup>rd</sup> and

they are interested in helping support the project if the business names are attached to the banners or poles in some way. Dane suggested a 50/50 request from the business community. Gina will help the commission create a sponsorship letter. Dane suggested that the timeline is too short and that the goal for installation could be December 2010. . The commission will do a vote on public art funds for the banners in August.

**PSSC Sculpture Installation**—Puget Sound Skills Center instructor Dale Copeland installed the metal sculpture lighthouse they created for the Burien Community Center on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The students formed the steel sheet metal into the shape of a coastal rock formation by heating the steel with a torch and hammering it to form the rock shape. Further grinding and welding on the rock gave it a more detailed look. The trees were formed using steel round stock and copper sheeting. Each student made a tree with their own personal touch and creativity. All the students worked on the entire project and signed their name on the rock. The students take great pride knowing that they built something that others will enjoy and that they can come back to and say “I helped build that!”

**Sculpture created by:** Artist and Welding Instructor Dale Copeland and his students from the Puget Sound Skills Center & Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 32 Welding Career Program: Landon Abel, Bryan Asplund, Jonathon Garrison, Robert Griffith, Adam Hilmer, Nicholas Holme, Zackary Larson, Talus Moloney, Ezequiel Morales, Kevin Narverud, Ryan Northern, Alexander Nitchke, Robert Rose, Caleb Silver, Deven Smotherman, Salamina Tauanuu, and Penn Wright. **Materials donated by:** McKinstry Company of Seattle.

**Public Art**—The next meeting of the public art committee will be on June 29<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be to discuss the public art plan and the use of the funds currently set aside for public art.

**Arts and Economic Development**—The committee is continuing work on building relationship with the BEDP (Burien Economic Development Partnership).

Mayor Joan McGilton mentioned to commissioners that she has an interest in an Arts BBQ on the former B/ IAS space where people bring art for the day.

### **Staff Report**

**Highline School District Arts Council**-- The Arts Council recommendations will go before the school board on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Feedback has been positive so hopes are high that the recommendations will be adopted and proposed action will be started. Recommendations are attached.

**Wild Strawberry Festival Recap**—The Burien Wild Strawberry Festival was moved to Town Square Park and added the B-Town Bike Fair, art demo booths, and Rat City Rummage artists to the mix of music, performance, vendors, and kids activities. Unfortunately the weather was cold and rainy so attendance was lower than usual.

Meeting adjourned

HIGHLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401  
Burien, Washington 98166

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**Subject:** Arts Council Recommendations

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Reference Policy No.

Briefing [ ]

Action [ X ]

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Presented by: John Welch, Superintendent

**Date:** June 23, 2010

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### ***Background Information***

The arts – dance, drama, music, and visual art – have played an important role through the years in defining culture and encouraging expression. In public schools, the arts are considered core academic curriculum, but they have a special place, often enabling students to follow their interests and bridge from academic learning to performance experiences.

Highline has much to be proud of in the arts. Music at the elementary level is supported as well or better than surrounding districts, with all students in grades 1-6 experiencing music taught by qualified specialists twice per week, and all schools offering band at 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The arts at secondary have many bright spots – acclaimed musicians, exhibited artists, inspiring drama productions, culturally diverse dancers, and an arts themed small school.

However, there is a need for attention to the arts. The chief concerns are:

- The need for lack of central coordination to support the arts.
- Inequitable opportunities based on geographic, economic, and cultural divides.
- Low participation in middle school (37% in one recent semester), which prevents middle school students from accessing arts curriculum and Classroom Based Performance Assessments, a state requirement.
- Inconsistent offerings at the secondary level; vocal music and strings are underrepresented compared to neighboring districts, while drama and dance are not available as curriculum offerings in most schools.
- The need for sequential high school programs that go beyond introductory offerings.

## Administrative Consideration

The Superintendent's Council on the Arts was formed at the request of the board and superintendent to explore the state of the arts and make recommendations for short-term and long-term. The Council consisted of fifteen members, representing parents, community arts leaders, teachers, and administrators, and met at least twice monthly from January through May. Input was received in a variety of formats, including guest speakers, surveys, meetings with staff groups, and a parent night.

The Council presented a written report and shared insights at a work study on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The written report is available to the public at [www.hsd401.org](http://www.hsd401.org).

### **The Council presented the following recommendations:**

#### Leadership

Recommendation #1: Adopt a fine arts board policy.

Recommendation #2: Reinstate a fine arts administrative position in the central office.

#### Equity

Recommendation #3: Give consideration to equity of access and culturally inclusive content when adding arts opportunities.

Recommendation #4: Increase arts offerings in Tyee and Evergreen service areas.

#### Funding

Recommendation #5: Retain existing funding for arts in the near-term.

Recommendation #6: Increase funding for the arts in the long-term and include fine arts in a capital bond.

#### Program and Offerings

Recommendation #7: In the short-term, ensure that all middle schools create a plan to increase the number of students taking an arts class before the end of eighth grade. The superintendent (or designee) should review and approve those plans in time for staffing assignments and master scheduling for the 2011-12 school year. In the long term, ensure that all students participate in an arts class and take a Classroom Based Performance Assessment before exiting eighth grade. All middle schools

should offer courses in at least two art forms and make them accessible to all students. Student voice should be considered in determining course offerings.

Recommendation #8: In the long-term, build a comprehensive and sequential program of arts education that meets and exceeds state requirements and supports the Highline vision by fostering creative, expressive, well-rounded graduates who are ready to excel in college, career, and citizenship.

#### Elementary School

- Provide opportunities for professional development in arts integration to classroom teachers and in dance to PE teachers
- Provide art specialists to be shared among elementary schools to support arts standards and arts integration
- Identify pilot sites for school-wide professional development in the arts or the ArtsEd Washington PAL program for principals

#### Middle School

- Ensure that all middle schools offer arts courses in multiple disciplines, including:
  - Instrumental music (Band/wind ensemble, jazz, drumline, etc.)
  - Vocal music
  - Visual art
  - Drama
  - Dance
- Expand the orchestra program beyond elementary to Pacific Middle School

#### High School

- Ensure that all four high school campuses offer arts courses in all four major art forms – dance, drama, music, and visual arts
- Provide opportunities for beginner and intermediate/advanced arts courses
- Expand the orchestra program beyond elementary and middle to Mount Rainier High School
- Provide media courses, applied arts courses, and CTE funded courses as a compliment to traditional fine arts courses

**After further administrative consideration, it has been determined that the above recommendations shall be prioritized, such that the following recommendations be acted on immediately:**

1. A position, or partial FTE position, be created in the Teaching and Learning Department to provide leadership in the arts.
2. All middle schools offer at least two art forms starting in the 2010-11 school year, which will require an increase of offerings at Cascade Middle School.
3. The Board adopts an arts policy in the coming months.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

That the Board adopt the recommendations as stated by the Arts Council, with prioritization of the items listed above.

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